

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew"

By CARL HARTMAN
OTTAWA (CP)—The Panamanian tanker Miraflores collided with a smaller tanker and burst into flames in the River Scheldt Monday.

Jokers Collide, 6 Missing

THE HAGUE, Netherlands—The Panamanian tanker Miraflores collided with a smaller tanker and burst into flames in the River Scheldt Monday.

The Miraflores' captain perished and six crew members were missing, but rescuers pulled the skipper's wife and 29 others from the fire-swept waters.

The 13,350-ton British tanker Abadesa also caught fire in the collision with the 20,776-ton Miraflores. Burning oil spread out over thousands of square yards, blocking river traffic to the port of Antwerp.

The captain of the British tanker died and "everyone is safe" aboard his ship, which carried 42 crew members.

Hours after the collision the Miraflores was still burning. No injuries were reported aboard a third grounded ship, the 18,700-ton George Livanos flying the Panamanian flag.

CREW ITALIAN
Capt. Giacomo Verardo of the Miraflores and his crew all were Italian.

The village of Rilland-Bath, where survivors were brought ashore, officials said the body of Capt. Verardo had been recovered.

The wife of the chief engineer was rescued. Gian Massone, along with the captain's wife, the alternate and aboard, Peter Pelusiers and skipper Evert van Den Bosch of Flushing told how they two small craft and a Dutch state waterways boat had picked up 30 of the Miraflores.

Sports Area Proposed Crown For 1978

DAILY-DOUBLE SWITCH SEEN
WASHINGTON (CP)—A \$10 daily-double race track laid out \$21.25 for William Henry Desnoere of Toronto.

At least Desnoere caught the winning ticket. The Baltimore Sun suggests he may not have been the original bettor.

The Sun in a report on Saturday's race track events at nearby Bowie, Md., said a bettor believed to be a horseman bought three of the lucky 810 combinations which paid off a total of \$83,738.

But Desnoere, who cashed one of the winning tickets, "did not hit the buyer's description." The Sun said.

"Since persons bearing U.S. credentials are subject to income tax, Canadian identification cards are popular when cashing tickets, valued at more than \$600."

N.S. Woman Fataally Burned
NEW GLASGOW (CP)—A 74-year-old New Glasgow woman, Mrs. Forrest Horton, died in hospital here Monday of burns received at home earlier in the day.

Two men rushed to her son's home when they heard her cry out and found her suffering severe burns but the origin of the fire could not be determined.

Manila Shaken By Sharp Quake
MANILA (AP)—Sharp earthquake shook Manila today. No damage was reported immediately.

The weather bureau said the quake had an intensity of four on a scale of nine.

U.S. Heads Door Open At Talks On Test Ban
GENEVA (AP)—The United States promised Monday to remain flexible in nuclear test-ban negotiations if the Soviet Union will only define the type of inspection Moscow will allow on Russian soil.

Neutral disagreement suggested the United States and the Soviet Union may ultimately compromise on five test-ban inspections a year on each other's territory.

That figure stands half way between the seven on-site checks now demanded by the U.S. and the three inspections the Russians have offered to allow.

Signs of a storm already are appearing in the U.S. Senate over the inspection issue. Several sources expressed doubt whether the Senate ever would ratify a treaty allowing only five annual inspections within the Soviet Union. As recently as two years ago, the minimum American figure was 20.

MAKES CONCESSIONS
Chief U.S. negotiator William C. Foster told conference delegates the U.S. is bending over backward to keep its bargaining position fluid while still maintaining that a meaningful treaty must be reached.

There is no issue of ours that we have declared to be immutable save the fundamental principle that a test-ban agreement must be adequately verified," he said.

Veto Backfire Jolts French

By CARL HARTMAN
BRUSSELS (AP)—The French veto of Britain's entry into the European Common Market backfired Monday.

The veto of the Jolt in a continued drain of money to France from French possessions in Africa.

Resentment among France's five fellow Market members at exclusion of the British showed up in the assignment of lower-ranking officials to a two-day meeting of the Common Market Council of Ministers.

The only full-fledged cabinet member on hand at the first session was Luxembourg's foreign minister Eugene Schaus. It was his turn to be chairman.

The 111th - French issue emerging from the session called the atmosphere glacial.

The topic scheduled today is establishment of a date for signing a new treaty of trade and aid with African states, all but two of them former French colonies.

The pact was to have been signed this week and the French would replace the subcommittee's 730,000,000 development fund, some of which would go to replace the subcommittee's consumer loan pay to African countries and hanna growers in the form of high prices. The fund also would help to tie the former French empire closer to Europe.

MADE STAND PLAIN
But both Italy and The Netherlands made plain that they would not sign at this time. They are expected to go on record formally today. The ceremony seems likely now to be deferred at least until the end of May, when both the Italians and the Dutch will have elected new parliaments.

The question of British participation in the Common Market came up Monday because the European parliament at Strasbourg has addressed a resolution on the case to the Council of Ministers, a nine-man board with a large number of communists.

It asked the commission to present a report on the long negotiations about British membership to the next session of the Council of Ministers. The report, which already exists as a confidential draft, is believed to favor British entry.

Taken Over, Checked For End Season

By MARIAN BRUCE
Guardians-Patrol Staff Writer
Following the submission of what Mayor A. Walthein Guard described as "the most comprehensive report prepared in a short time, to be presented during the last 10 years," the city council yesterday unanimously agreed to purchase the Charlottetown Sports Arena from Capt. Carl F. Burke for the sum of \$90,000.

The 16-page survey, prepared by City Engineer Norman F. Stewart since Saturday's emergency session of council, brought full support of council members for the purchase resolution. The property is to be acquired at the end of the current season.

The renovation was originally proposed by Coun. Walter Cox, mainly on the ground that the present location of the arena presented a parking problem. It was suggested that the Coliseum at the Exhibition grounds, if converted into a rink, would be superior in this respect, and was a newer building.

Several other councillors also proposed at the previous meeting that there be a delay in proceedings until more details on financing, cost and construction of the building were discovered.

LESS THAN HALF VALUE
The city engineer's report set the value of lands, building and equipment at \$183,000, and said the possible purchase price of \$90,000 plus \$5,000 for alterations is less than one-half the present value.

Total cost of constructing a new skating rink on an alternate site, as suggested at Saturday's meeting, would amount to \$227,500. The annual cost to the city capitalized over 20 years at six per cent interest would be more than two and one-half the annual capital cost of the present sports arena, Mr. Stewart said.

He stated that the present building was structurally sound and would remain so at a minimum in a 10-year race cost for many years.

FACILITIES ADEQUATE
Facilities of the arena, such as offices, dressing rooms and washrooms, were adequate, and heating, ventilating and electrical systems were in reasonably good condition, it was pointed out.

Mr. Stewart noted that the boiler-room required some alterations and that heating and electrical systems, also require some alterations.

He said the present ice-making plant was in reasonably good condition and with the renovation and full operation of the air-cooled evaporative condenser, it was pointed out.

QUEEN SALES FOR TASMANIA
MELBOURNE, Australia (Reuters)—Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip sailed from Melbourne Monday night to the straits of Auld Lang Syne.

Accompanied by a fleet of 5,000 tons of fare-well ships of many nations escorted their steers and the royal couple will spend today at the city capitalized over 20 years at six per cent interest would be more than two and one-half the annual capital cost of the present sports arena, Mr. Stewart said.

DRUG MAKERS TAKE EXCEPTION TO ROYAL COMMISSION FINDINGS
OTTAWA (CP)—Drug manufacturers' association said today that patents be abolished, but that better protection be given to those willing to exploit their patents to the full," he said.

STIFFEN CONTROLS
The association published last Wednesday, recommended abolition of patent protection as the only effective way to reduce drug prices is "right" and that prices are not high, although he would not like to see them any higher.

The price is not too high with respect of the capacity of the Canadian population to buy drugs," he said.

He estimated that Canadians spent approximately \$300,000,000 a year on prescription drugs and another \$100,000,000 on patent medicines.

MONDAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE
Mr. Laroc told reporters he thought the commissioners had gone beyond their terms of reference in highlighting the proposal for abolishing patents as a means of reducing prices.

Abolition, he suggested, would make it too easy to place products on the market without fully meeting the safety and quality requirements of the Canadian pharmaceuticals and impede research.

"We will continue to ask need for a two-day visit to Tasmania.

THE ROYAL COUPLE WILL SPEND TODAY AT THE CITY CAPITALIZED OVER 20 YEARS AT SIX PER CENT INTEREST WOULD BE MORE THAN TWO AND ONE-HALF THE ANNUAL CAPITAL COST OF THE PRESENT SPORTS ARENA, MR. STEWART SAID.

THE CANADIAN MINISTERS FELT TOO MANY BRITISH EXPORTERS IMAGINED THAT WHAT WAS AN ATTEMPT TO BRING A LARGE EXPORT MARKET AUTOMATICALLY BE SUCCESSFUL TO THE NORTH AMERICAN MARKET.

THE SOURCE SAID THAT DURING THE TALKS THE MINISTERS MADE IT CLEAR THAT BRITAIN AND CANADA SHOULD CO-OPERATE CLOSELY DURING PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE AND DURING ANY OTHER NEGOTIATIONS UNDER THE GENERAL AGREEMENT FOR TARIFFS AND TRADE.

CANADA'S MAIN AIM DURING THE KENNEDY ROUND WOULD BE TO SECURE TRAFFIC REDUCTIONS ON SUCH PRODUCTS AS ALUMINUM, WOODPULP AND NEWSPRINT, THE SOURCE SAID.

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THE PANAMANIAN flag tanker Miraflores lies abandoned and burning in the Scheldt river at Antwerp, Belgium, Monday after collision with the British tanker Abadesa. Twenty-nine crewmen and the pilot aboard the 20,776-ton tanker escaped the flames as rescue vessels moved in to remove them. Crewmen of the 13,350-ton Abadesa

MADE FREEMAN OF LONDON
Melieva Pomp, Color Lavished On Diefenbaker

By JAMES NELSON
LONDON (CP)—Melieva Pomp and color were lavished on Prime Minister Diefenbaker Monday when he was made a freeman of the City of London.

It was hailed by the lord mayor, Sir Ralph Parrington, as one who had brought a "freshness of approach, eagerness and courage to meeting the problems of the world."

"Canada has gone marching ahead to a position of commanding authority in human affairs," the lord mayor said.

HAPPY AT TRIBUTES
Diefenbaker, who flew back to Canada Monday night into a sustained bout of political campaigning, said he was so impressed by the eulogies paid him in the two functions that "I wish it were possible to take some of you over to Canada with me for the next few weeks."

The lord mayor said that when it was decided last November to honor Diefenbaker, the alternate and shepherds of the city had no idea a general election in Canada would be under way. Being politically impartial, all he could do was wish Diefenbaker "fair winds and good luck."

If Canadian voters thought they could improve on Prime Minister Diefenbaker, they would have to elect a man of "exceptional capacity."

Diefenbaker Heads Home
LONDON (Reuters)—Prime Minister Diefenbaker left here today for his home in Ottawa following weekend talks with British government leaders and a ceremony in which he regained the freedom of the City of London.

The Canadian leader was accompanied by his wife as he left London Airport in a Royal Canadian Air Force Yukon aircraft.

Two Reasons Make April Inpopular Election Month
CAPITAL BUREAU OF THE GUARDIAN
OTTAWA (CP)—The March-April period is the most unpopular time for federal elections, only three have been held in March and two in April until now.

Chief reason is that Canada's weather makes campaigning difficult in those months. But a secondary reason, and one that seems larger, is election, is that April 30 is known as "tax day."

How much effect payment of income tax has on a voter's feelings has been measured. The answer is a simple one: "No," but even the necessity of filing returns is enough to make some people slightly jaundiced eye.

Several factors may hurt the tax day voter: the coincidence of April 30 is the date of election day coming in the midst of the tax filing period. Then, almost all tax returns are now processed at the Department of National Revenue's taxation data centre in Ottawa. Here, in a new building at Tunney's Pasture, electronic computing equipment is handling returns faster and more efficiently. Previously, returns were sent to regional offices in each province. That returns now come directly to the capital will only tend to link the government more closely with the unpleasant payment, many believe.

That more significant is that changes in this year's tax form, with respect to the provincial share of the revenue, are confusing many. Something close to a 10 per cent of returns are believed contain errors. These errors are drawn to the attention of the returns who, in many cases, is being asked to return a further sum.

Most early returns are those seeking refunds. The amount of return received is likely to be less than expected where errors have been made in calculation. This year's tax is no lighter than last year for the same income, but to many cost a used Canadian dollar.

And this could lead to a desire for retaliation at the polls on April 8.

Hay Is Promised Kentville Area

KENTVILLE, N. S. (CP)—Four carloads of hay are to arrive here this week from Quebec and New Brunswick to help alleviate what has been described as a critical supply situation in the area.

The shortage of hay results from bad weather last summer and some dairymen are reported to have less than a week's supply remaining.

Taxation Probe Is Postponed
OTTAWA (CP)—The royal commission on taxation, scheduled to begin sitting here next Monday as it opened a study of the entire federal taxation system, has announced that all hearings will be postponed until after Easter.

The original schedule, taking the case a member commission from coast to coast, would have carried on through the campaign leading to the April 8 general election. These dates had been set before the election was announced.

The commission, headed by Toronto chartered accountant Kenneth Carter, would have sat here for five days next week.

Under a new schedule issued Monday, the commission plans to begin a five-day hearing in Ottawa April 22-26 and will return to Montreal April 23-27 and will be in Toronto May 1-24.

Registration of returns is expected to be held in August, but dates have not yet been set.

New Trial Is Ordered

NEWCASTLE, N.B. (CP)—A second trial date on a capital murder charge against Joseph Mercure, 62, of Grandville, N.B., has been set for March 28 when the New Brunswick Supreme Court sits here.

The 12-man jury failed to reach a verdict after 10 days testimony ending last Thursday.

The jury deliberated four hours without coming to a decision.

Mercure was charged with the death last September of Patrick Joseph Martin, 50, found burned and stabbed on the kitchen floor of his nephew's home. He died later in hospital at Chatham, N.B.

Officials Of The Canadian Pharmaceutical Association Are Shown During Their Conference Monday In Ottawa, at which they took exception to recommendations relating to the drug industry in a report by the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission. They are, from left, Stanley N. Coender, general manager; H.D. Cook,

vice-president, and Roger Laroc, president. Mr. Coender lives in Ottawa while the other two are from Montreal.

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